

LUD 5684.2 CIP (10106926)**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes a soluble protein which binds to IL-TIF/IL-22, wherein the complimentary nucleotide sequence of said isolated nucleic acid molecule, hybridizes, under stringent conditions, to SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 10.
2. (original) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule encodes a protein, the amino acid sequence of which is set forth in SEQ ID NO: 6 or SEQ ID NO: 11.
3. (original) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth at SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 10.
4. (original) Expression vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, operably linked to a promoter.
5. (original) Expression vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 2, operably linked to a promoter.
6. (original) Expression vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 3, operably linked to a promoter.
7. (original) Recombinant cell line or cell strain, transformed or transfected with the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.
8. (original) Recombinant cell line or cell strain, transformed or transfected with the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 2.
9. (original) Recombinant cell line or cell strain, transformed or transfected with the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 3.
10. (original) Recombinant cell line or cell strain, transformed or transfected with the expression vector of claim 4.
11. (original) Recombinant cell line or cell strain, transformed or transfected with the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 5.

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12. (original) Recombinant cell line or cell strain, transformed or transfected with the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 6.

13-16 (cancelled)

17. (original) A method for producing a soluble, IL-22/IL-TIF binding protein comprising transforming or transfecting a cell with the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, culturing the thus transformed or transfected cell to produce said soluble binding protein, and isolating it from said cell.

18. (original) A method for producing a soluble, IL-TIF/IL-22 binding protein, comprising transforming or transfecting a cell with the expression vector of claim 4, culturing the thus transformed or transfected cell to produce said soluble binding protein containing antagonist, and isolating it from said cell.

19-30 (cancelled)

31. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid molecule comprises a nucleotide sequence wherein said nucleotide sequence is at least 90% identical to SEQ ID NO: 5.

32. (new) The isolated nucleic molecule of claim 1, comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth at SEQ ID NO: 5.

33. (new) The isolated nucleic molecule of claim 1, comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth at SEQ ID NO: 10.